

## ABOUT

Alessi is currently on the faculty of The Juilliard School; his students now occupy posts with many major symphony orchestras in the U.S. and internationally. As a clinician for the Edwards Instrument Co., he has also given master classes throughout the world and has toured Europe extensively as a master teacher and recitalist. He has performed as soloist with several leading concert bands, including the U.S. Military Academy Band at West Point, U.S. Army Band (Pershing's Own), and the U.S. Marine Band (President's Own). In addition, he has performed with the Maria Schneider Orchestra, the Village Vanguard Orchestra, and has recorded with jazz greats, J.J. Johnson and Steve Turre.

Alessi's discography includes many releases on the Summit record label, including the Trombonastics, and a disc with New York Philharmonic Principal Trumpet Philip Smith entitled Fandango; he also recorded New York Legends on the Cala label. His live recording of the Rouse Concerto with the New York Philharmonic can be heard on Volume II of the recent release, An American Celebration, on New York Philharmonic Special Editions, the Orchestra's own recording label. In addition, conductor/composer Bramwell Tovey recently recorded a piece written especially for Alessi, entitled Urban Cabaret with Alessi as soloist.

Alessi was invited by the International Trombone Association to record a solo disc of newly composed works, which was distributed to the Association's membership of 5,000 trombonists. in early 1999 and is now available as Beyond the End of the Century through Summit Records. Recently, his recording of George Crumb's Starchild on the Bridge record label, featuring Alessi as soloist, won a Grammy Award for 1999–2000. Other recordings featuring Alessi are with the Canadian Brass (Sony Classical and Philips Records). Further information about Alessi can be found on his website, SlideArea.com.

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**Season 116, Program 91**



UNIVERSITY OF  
OREGON

# SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

## Joseph Alessi

Principal Trombonist  
New York Philharmonic

*This program is part of the Alessi Seminar, an annual workshop and performance series for trombonists and trombone enthusiasts.*

**Beall Concert Hall**  
Sunday, August 6, 2017 | 7:30 p.m.



**ASH 1 (WORLD PREMIERE)**James Kazik  
(b. 1974)**Adagietto**Gustav Mahler  
(1816-1911)  
arr. R. Sauer

THIS PERFORMANCE IS DEDICATE TO THE LATE ROY DEFFINBAUGH

**Sonata**Allegro moderato maestoso  
Allegretto grazioso  
Allegro pesante  
Allegro moderato maestosoPaul Hindemith  
(1895-1963)**INTERMISSION****Arpeggione Sonata movement 1**Franz Schubert  
(1797-1828)**À La Manière De Debussy**Jean-Michel Defaye  
(b.1932)**Rhapsody**Gordon Langford  
(1930-2017)

**JOSEPH ALESSI** was appointed Principal Trombone of the New York Philharmonic in the spring of 1985. He began musical studies in his native California with his father, Joseph Alessi, Sr. As a high school student in San Rafael, California, he was a soloist with the San Francisco Symphony before continuing his musical training at Philadelphia's Curtis Institute of Music. Prior to joining the Philharmonic, Alessi was second trombone of The Philadelphia Orchestra for four seasons, and principal trombone of L'Orchestre symphonique de Montreal for one season. In addition, he has performed as guest principal trombonist with the London Symphony Orchestra in Carnegie Hall led by Pierre Boulez.

Alessi is an active soloist, recitalist, and chamber music performer. In April 1990, he made his solo debut with the New York Philharmonic, performing Creston's Fantasy for Trombone, and in 1992 premiered Christopher Rouse's Pulitzer Prize-winning Trombone Concerto with the Philharmonic, which commissioned the work for its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. His most recent appearance with the Philharmonic as soloist was in world premiere performances of William Bolcom's Trombone Concerto in the winter of 2017.

Other solo engagements have included the New Japan Philharmonic, Nagoya Philharmonic, Orchestra of Teatro Bellini, Mannheim National Theater Orchestra, Hauge Philharmonic, Helsinki Philharmonic, and the Colorado, Alabama, Santa Barbara, Syracuse, and Puerto Rico symphony orchestras. Alessi has also participated in numerous festivals, including the Festivale Musica di Camera in Protogruaro, Italy; Cabrillo Music Festival; Swiss Brass Week; and Lieksa Brass Week in Finland. He was featured in the 1997 International Trombone Festival in Feldkirch, Austria, and the International Meeting of Brass Instruments in Lille, France. In 2002 Alessi was awarded an International Trombone Association Award for his contributions to the world of trombone music and trombone playing, and in 2014, was elected President of that association.